

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



July 19, 2006

Reply to Attn of

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

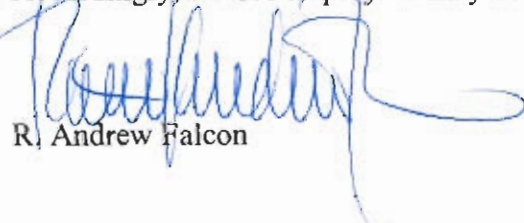
FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Congressional and Industry Reception, July 20, 2006

On July 20, 2006, the Smithsonian will be hosting a luncheon to mark the visit of Deputy Minister Luis Manuel Rebelo Fernandes and the signing of the continuation agreements for scientific collaboration with regard to the Large-Scale Biosphere. The luncheon, which will be paid for from funds from the Smithsonian Trust, will include attendees from other U.S. Government agencies, such as the Department of Interior and the Department of Agriculture, the Smithsonian, and representatives from Brazil and the Organization of American States (OAS). A total of approximately 40 people are expected to attend. The total value of the food and refreshments provided to each attendee is approximately \$51. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g).

I have determined that free attendance of NASA employees is in the best interests of the Agency because it will further NASA programs and operations. It would provide an informal opportunity for NASA officials and staff involved in international scientific collaboration to confer and discuss issues of mutual interest with counterparts at the Smithsonian and other Federal organizations, as well as with representatives of interested segments of the international community.

Accordingly, NASA employees may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Andrew Falcon".

R. Andrew Falcon